

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 3, 9, 12, 13, 15 and 24 are amended as presented below. Claims 2 and 8 have been cancelled. A detailed listing of the status of all claims that have been in the application is also hereafter provided.

1. (Currently Amended) A cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition usable for constituting a tire tread, said composition being based on one or more diene elastomers and a plasticizer comprising a glycerol oleic acid triester, wherein said plasticizer comprises:

one or more synthetic and/or natural compounds not extracted from petroleum present in a mass fraction of from 45% to 100%, said compounds comprising at least one glycerol fatty acid triester, wherein as a whole, the fatty acids in said triester comprise oleic acid in a mass fraction equal to or greater than 6070%, wherein the amount of said compounds in the composition is from 10 to 40 phr, and

one or more plasticizing oils extracted from petroleum in a mass fraction of from 0% to 55%, wherein the plasticizing oils are selected from the group consisting of paraffinic, aromatic and naphthenic oils.

2. Cancelled

3. (Currently Amended) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 21, wherein the fatty acids comprise oleic acid in a mass fraction equal to or greater than 85%.

4. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said synthetic compound not extracted from petroleum is glycerol oleic acid triester.

5. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said natural compound not extracted from petroleum is a vegetable oil.

6. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 5, wherein the vegetable oil is a glycerol fatty acid triester.

7. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 5, wherein the vegetable is a sunflower oil.

8. Cancelled

9. (Currently Amended) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said plasticizers comprises one or more synthetic and/or natural compounds not extracted from petroleum ~~is~~ in a mass fraction of from ~~60~~⁷⁰% to 100%, and said one or more plasticizing oils extracted from petroleum is in a mass fraction of from 0% to 40~~30~~%.

10. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 9, wherein said plasticizer comprises one or more synthetic and/or natural compounds not extracted from petroleum in a mass fraction of from 80% to 100%, and said one or more plasticizing oils extracted from petroleum in a mass fraction from 0% to 20%.

11. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 10, wherein said plasticizer comprises one or more synthetic and/or natural compounds not extracted from petroleum in a mass of 100%.

12. (Currently amended) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said plasticizer composition comprises ~~one or more synthetic and/or natural compounds not extracted from petroleum in a quantity of from 10~~

to 40 phr, and said one or more plasticizing oils extracted from petroleum in a quantity of from 0 to 30 phr.

13. (Currently Amended) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 12, wherein said plasticizer composition comprises one or more synthetic and/or natural compounds not extracted from petroleum in a quantity of from 20 to 35 phr, and said one or more plasticizing oils extracted from petroleum in a quantity of from 0 to 20 phr.

14. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said composition comprises between 50 phr and 100 phr of a majority of diene elastomer having a glass transition temperature of between -65°C and -10°C, and between 0 phr and 50 phr of a minority diene elastomer having a glass transition temperature of between -110°C and -80°C.

15. (Currently Amended) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 14, wherein said majority diene elastomer is selected from the group consisting of solution-prepared styrene-butadiene copolymers, emulsion-prepared styrene-butadiene copolymers, natural polyisoprenes, synthetic polyisoprenes having a cis-1,4 linkage content greater than 95% and mixtures thereof, and said minority diene elastomer is a polybutadiene having a cis-1,4 linkage content greater than 90%.

16. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 15, wherein said solution prepared styrene-butadiene copolymer have a glass transition temperature of from -50°C to -15°C and trans-1,4 butadiene linkage content which is greater than 50%.

17. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 16, wherein said emulsion-prepared styrene-butadiene copolymers have a glass transition temperature of from -55°C to -30°C.

18. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 14, wherein said majority diene elastomer is present in a quantity of 100 phr.

19. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 14, wherein said composition comprises a blend of said majority and minority diene elastomers.

20. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 19, wherein the blend comprises polybutadienes having a cis-1,4 linkage content greater than 90% and an emulsion-prepared styrene-butadiene copolymer.

21. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said reinforcing filler is carbon black in a quantity of from 60 to 200 phr.

22. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said reinforcing filler is a reinforcing white filler in a quantity equal to or greater than 70 phr.

23. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said reinforcing filler is a blend of carbon black and a reinforcing white filler.

24. (Currently Amended) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 1, wherein said plasticizer further comprises one or more synthetic and/or natural compounds not extracted from petroleum is a hydrocarbon plasticizing resin in a

quantity of from 5 to 20 phr, wherein said hydrocarbon plasticizing resin is miscible in said ~~majority diene elastomer and said minority diene elastomer(s)~~, has a glass transition temperature of between 10°C and 150°C and a number-average molecular weight of between 400 g/mol and 2000 g/mol.

25. (Original) The cross-linkable or cross-linked rubber composition according to Claim 24, wherein said plasticizing resin has a glass transition temperature of from 30°C to 100°C, a number-average molecular weight of between 400 and 1000 g/mol, and a polymolecularity index less than 2.

26. (Original) A tread for a tire comprising a rubber composition in accordance with Claim 1.

27. (Original) A tire comprising a tread according to Claim 26.